

ON CHRONIC ALCOHOLISM.

REMEDIES OF OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The Keeley Cure is Not in It With Some of the Medicines Used in Olden Times.

Don't imagine the temperance question is a modern issue. The wisdom and propriety of drink were matters of discussion 100 years ago. An old New York resident while curiously ransacking a time-stained ancestral trunk last week exhumed a queer little book which bore the publication date of 1795. Authorship was credited to Thomas Hubbard, and the contents were devoted to "valuable secrets and approved directions from the best artists relative to wine."

It was with a chuckle that he observed that the book was carefully concealed under several theological volumes, for he remembered that tradition recited that his venerable ancestor, although a man of religious convictions, was not averse to accumulating that which in later days came to be known as a "jag."

He dusted the book and carried it to his club, where its "secrets" were revealed to follow-members. It is related that copious memoranda were made, with a view to future utilization. Here are a few of the book's suggestions, in the hope that they may prove of value to the descendants of those who took advantage of them in the days when "reform" Police Commissioners were unknown.

"To cure those who are too much addicted to drink wine, put in a sufficient quantity of wine three or four eels, which leave there till quite dead. Give that wine to drink to the person you want to reform, and he or she will be so much disgusted of wine that though they formerly made much use of it, they will now have an aversion to it."

"Another method, no less certain: Cut in the spring a branch of vine, in the time when the sap ascends most strongly, and receive in a cup the liquor which runs from that branch. If you mix some of that liquor with wine and give it to a man already drunk, he will never relish wine afterward."

"To prevent one from getting intoxicated with drinking, take white cabbages and four pomegranates' juices—two ounces of each with one of vinegar. Boil all together for some time, to the consistence of a syrup. Take one ounce of this before you are going to drink, and drink afterward as much and as long as you please."

"Another way—Eat five or six bitter almonds, fasting. This will have the same effect."

"Another way—It is affirmed that if you eat mutton or goat's lungs roasted, cabbage or wormwood, it will absolutely prevent the bad effects which result from the excess of drinking."

"A method of making people drunk, without endangering their health—Infuse some aloewood in a glass of wine and give it to drink. The person who drinks it will soon give signs of intoxication."

"Another way—Boil in water some mandrake bark to a perfect redness of the water in which it is boiling. Of that liquor, if you put in the wine, whoever drinks it will soon be drunk."

"To recover a person from intoxication—Make such a person drink a glass of vinegar, or some cabbage juice, otherwise give him honey. You may likewise meet with success by giving the patient a glass of wine quite warm to drink, or a dish of strong coffee, without milk or sugar, adding to it a large teaspoonful of salt."

"To prevent the breath from smelling of wine—Chew a root of iris troglodita, and no one can discover by your breath whether you have been drinking or not."

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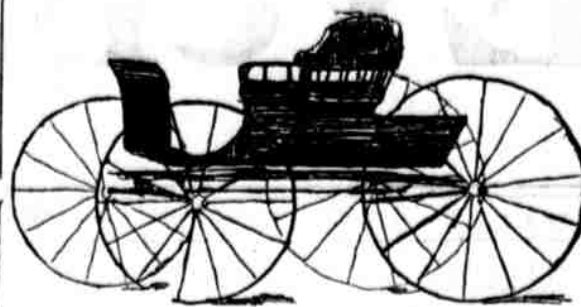
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